

Upcoming dates for your diary

|                                              |                                                   |            |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Chartham Village Fete                        | Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept                          | from noon  |
| PCC Meeting                                  | Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Sept                       | 7pm        |
| 'Ride and Stride'                            | Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept                         |            |
| Family Time Together                         | Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept                         | 3-4.30pm   |
| Wednesday Bible study restarts               | Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept                         | 12noon     |
| Eco Conference 2026 – Rochester Cathedral    | Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept                         | 9.30 – 1pm |
| Coffee and Cake Concert                      | Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept                         | 10:15am    |
| Celebration of Baptism Tea                   | Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept                         | 3pm        |
| Ladies Group                                 | Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept                         | 2.00pm     |
| Harvest Festival                             | Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct                           | 10am       |
| Harvest Supper                               | Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct                           | Evening    |
| Confirmation Service in Canterbury Cathedral | Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov                           | 11.00am    |
| Church Pantomime – “A lad in a manger”       | Sat & Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec | Afternoon  |

**Summer Sunday 30th August - Welcoming pilgrims on the Via Britannica**

*This Sunday we welcome Eamon Mullally back to St Mary's. He will be speaking about the new pilgrimage route from London to Canterbury and Rome. Thank you Eamon for coming to tell us more about this new extension to the 'Via Francigena' and for helping us think about how we can welcome pilgrims to our church. Rev Andrew*

**Ladies Group**

Our meeting on 21st September at St. Mary's Church @ 2.00pm, will have a guest speaker from Kent Fire & Rescue Service telling us about safety in the home. On this occasion the meeting will be an open meeting for all local people to attend. Everybody is welcome. **Diana Withers**

**Planning meeting for St Mary's Church Pantomime**

*We are holding an initial meeting for all those involved in any capacity in our church panto. We'll have a first read through and agree plans for rehearsals and production. This will be on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 7pm in church. If you haven't already signed up it's not too late to get involved – talk to Louisa or David. We're looking forward to seeing everyone there. Louisa Waters*

**Chartham Fete Sunday 6 September**

Please can you help on our church stall on 6th September from 12noon? Please see Laura Gilbert or Bronny Slowe if you can help with children's crafts or giving out information about our church activities for an hour. **Rev Andrew**

**Wednesday Bible study**

*Our Wednesday Bible Study will recommence on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon when we will continue our study of St Mark's gospel. Gerry & John Willis*

**Eco Conference 2026 “Think Global Act Local”**

“We're delighted to host this joint conference with Canterbury and Rochester Dioceses at Rochester Cathedral, exploring how our local actions shape the global climate. “Expect inspiring talks and practical workshops on sustainable floristry, church hospitality, and tools to improve energy efficiency. “Young people will help lead the day, with plenty of opportunities to connect and share ideas.” Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 9.30am–1pm. Full details via QR code.



### Disposal of the low chairs previously at the back of the church:

These 6 chairs are in a poor state of repair, and do not comply with safety regulations - the foam in the upholstery is flammable. So they will shortly be removed from the church. If anybody would like to have them then **please speak to Rev Andrew**.

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### Ride and Stride Saturday 12 September

*Please could you help welcome cyclists and walkers to our church as they raise money for churches in Kent? Please sign up to help for an hour on the sheet at the back of church or see David Chadwick for more details.*



*If you would like to join in the event and be sponsored to 'Ride' a bicycle or 'Stride' to as many churches as you can in one day then contact David Chadwick or <https://www.kentrideandstride.co.uk/> or via QR*

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**Youth Group Ride and Stride:** This year our Youth Group are planning to take part in Ride and Stride by walking to all the churches in Canterbury. Half of the money they raise will go to St Mary's building fund with the rest shared with churches in Kent. Please do think about sponsoring them when you see them in church, or you can **support them via our St Mary's Youth Group 'Just Giving' page** at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/stmarysyouthgroup> or via QR.



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### Safeguarding Survey - please can you help?

*The INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to ensure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. As part of the audit process for Canterbury, INEQE hope to engage with parishioners and members of the parish community through an online survey which will act as a mechanism through which individuals can comment on any matters relevant to the Audit's focus. The survey is both anonymous and confidential. We ask you to be open and honest with your responses. The survey results are received directly by INEQE's Audit Team and not by the Church of England.*

**The survey deadline has been extended to 11.30 pm on Wed 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026 and is at:** <https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/canterbury/> or via the QR code. **Rev Andrew**



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### Collects and readings

#### Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Aug: Holy Communion

Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were, in Christ,  
reconciling the world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim  
the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Psalm 122, Luke 2:41-45**

#### Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Sept: Family Praise

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**TBA**

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#### Sun 13<sup>th</sup> Sept:

**Exodus 14:19-31, Matthew 18:21-35**

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*A copy of this notice sheet, including any electronic links,  
can be found on our church website or by following the QR code:*

